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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/661,805	09/12/2003	Kishore Swaminathan	10022/385	7380
28164 7590 01/22/2007 ACCENTURE CHICAGO 28164 BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE P O BOX 10395 CHICAGO, IL 60610			EXAMINER PARDO, THUY N	
			ART UNIT 2165	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		01/22/2007	PAPER	

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/661,805

Applicant(s)

SWAMINATHAN ET AL.

Examiner

Thuy N. Pardo

Art Unit

2165

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 November 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 and 20-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 and 20-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 November 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Applicant's Amendment filed on November 02, 2006 in response to Examiner's Office Action has been reviewed. Claims 1 and 7 have been amended. This Office Action is Final.

#### ***Drawings***

2. The drawings were received on November 02, 2006. These drawings are accepted and placed in the record of the file.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Glass et al. (Hereinafter "Glass") US Patent Publication No. 2005/0060643 in view of Delic et al. (Hereinafter "Delic") US Patent Publication No. 2004/0186824.

As to claim 1, Glass teaches the invention substantially as claimed, comprising:

a) determining, automatically, a level of similarity between at least two of a plurality of discrete elements stored in the document repository [determining a level of a document similarity by comparing the unclassified document to a predetermined threshold, see the abstract;

Art Unit: 2165

automatic content-based similarity detection systems, 0065; 0082; 0202; 0196-0199; 0376; 0411-0412; claim 35];

b) storing data representative [a sample document (or data representative) of the classification of the most significantly resembling is assigned to the unclassified document, see the abstract; 0375-0376; 0390] of a link between the elements based in-part on the level of similarity [0341; 0352; 0365].

However, Glass does not explicitly teach that said document repository is automatically updated by said system although it has the same functionality of automatically updating a user network copy of a portion of the information repository [0217]. Delic teaches that said document repository is automatically updated by said system [each document is assigned at least one class by an automatic process, see fig. 3; 0037-0044].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add the limitations of Delic to Glass's system as an essential means to continuously update document repositories performed by introducing additional documents be automatically processed without the need of any manual intervention nor human inspection of the documents in order to improve speed capability and time consuming of updating knowledge bases or document repository systems.

As to claim 2, Glass and Delic teach the invention substantially as claimed. Glass further teaches that the document repository includes documents of at least one type selected from the group comprising a plain text document, a formatted text document, a presentation with discrete pages or slides, a diagram, a spreadsheet, programming code, a semi-structured document

Art Unit: 2165

database, a text document with mark-up language tags, and a fully structured relational database [email message and HTML tags, 0215; 0247].

As to claim 4, Glass and Delic teach the invention substantially as claimed. Glass further teaches displaying the link on a display [0250-0255; 0299-0301; 0404].

As to claim 4, Glass and Delic teach the invention substantially as claimed. Glass further teaches that the document repository includes at least two physical repositories [0283; 0250].

As to claim 5, Glass and Delic teach the invention substantially as claimed. Glass further teaches classifying the plurality documents as belonging to one category of a plurality of predetermined categories, the classification being based on at least one of the group comprising a format for the document, a physical structure for the document, a logical structure for the document, a size of the document, a location where the document is stored, and a content of the document.

4. Claims 3, 6-17 and 20-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Glass et al. (Hereinafter "Glass") US Patent Publication No. 2005/0060643 in view of in view of Delic et al. (Hereinafter "Delic") US Patent Publication No. 2004/0186824, and in further view of Wical US Patent No. 6,460,034.

As to claim 3, Glass and Delic teach the invention substantially as claimed, with the exception of retrieving a document from the repository and determining a document type and a physical structure for the document; and identifying one or more conceptually meaningful segments (elements) within the document based on at least one of the document type and the physical structure. Wical teaches retrieving a document from the repository [ab] and determining a document type and a physical structure for the document; and identifying one or more conceptually meaningful segments (elements) within the document based on at least one of the document type and the physical structure [processing documents in the content processing system that associates terms of the documents with categories of classification system, col. 4, lines 4-62; col. 9, lines 64 to col. 11, lines 12; col. 14, lines 56 to col. 16, lines 38].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add the limitations of Wical to Glass-Delic's system as an essential means to identify a plurality of documents relevant to the query.

As to claim 6, Glass, Delic and Wical teach the invention substantially as claimed. Wical further teaches retrieving a plurality of documents from a document repository [col. 23, lines 1-54]; segmenting at least two documents of the plurality of documents into a plurality of conceptually meaningful segments [groups IA, IB, IIA, col. 23, lines 1-53-4]; determining if a segment of one document is related to a segment of another document and storing data representative of the relationship [col. 24, lines 56 to col. 25, lines 6; 2, 3, 10 of fig. 4; 8 of fig. 9A; 8 of fig. 9B].

Art Unit: 2165

As to claims 7, 8 and 20, all limitations of these claims have been addressed in the analysis of 3 and 6 above, and these claims are rejected on that basis. Glass further teaches that said document repository may contain documents of various types [Content-Type: text/plain and text/html, 312 and 316 of fig. 4], and the one document being of a first type and the other document is of either a first type or of a second type [linked file or attached file, claims 11-20; 840-850 of fig. 3-4].

As to claim 9, Glass, Delic and Wical the invention substantially as claimed. Wical further teaches classifying the plurality of documents [fig. 8A-9C].

As to claim 10, Glass, Delic and Wical teach the invention substantially as claimed. Wical further teaches that the document repository is organized in accordance with a directory structure [fig. 8A-9C], and the step of classifying further comprises classifying the plurality of segments based in-part on the directory structure [see 8 of fig. 9A-9B].

As to claim 11, Glass, Delic and Wical the invention substantially as claimed. Wical further teaches that each document comprises a document name [fig. 9B], and the step of classifying further comprises classifying the plurality of segments based in part on the document name [part of the name "French", fig. 9B].

As to claim 12, Glass, Delic and Wical the invention substantially as claimed. Glass further teaches classifying the plurality of segments as being a segment type selected from a group comprising requirement, design, code, testing, defects, issues and requests [0203; 0381].

As to claim 13, Glass, Delic and Wical the invention substantially as claimed. Wical further teaches that the step of classifying further comprises classifying the plurality of segments based in part on a plurality of classification keywords [col. 12, lines 46 to col. 13, lines 6; fig. 8A-9C].

As to claim 14, Glass, Delic and Wical the invention substantially as claimed. Wical further teaches comparing the plurality of segments [tables 14-17 of col. 23-24].

As to claim 15, Glass, Delic and Wical the invention substantially as claimed. Wical further extracting a plurality of terms from the segments [themes, tables 15-17 of col. 24]; and for each segment, determining the frequency of at least one of the plurality of words within the segment [col. 23, lines 3 to col. 24, lines 54].

As to claim 16, Glass, Delic and Wical the invention substantially as claimed. Wical further teaches performing a pair-wise cosine similarity analysis among the plurality of segments [col. 17, lines 62 to col. 19, lines 5].



Art Unit: 2165

As to claim 17, Glass, Delic and Wical the invention substantially as claimed. Glass further teaches that the document repository includes documents associated with a software project [0365-0366].

As to claims 21-30, all limitations of these claims have been addressed in the analysis above, and these claims are rejected on that basis.

### *Response to Arguments*

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-17 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicant argues that neither Glass nor Wical teach a memory configured to store data representative of a link between at least one segment and one selected from the group consisting the plurality of segments and the plurality of document as specified in claims 20-30.

Examiner respectfully disagrees. Since Glass teaches the feature of storing data representative [a sample document (or data representative) of the classification of the most significantly resembling is assigned to the unclassified document, see the abstract; 0375-0376; 0390] of a link between the elements based in-part on the level of similarity [0341; 0352; 0365], a memory for storing the data representative and its link is inherent in the system.

Applicant's arguments in regard to claims 20-30 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

***Conclusion***

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

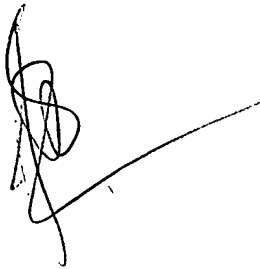
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy N. Pardo whose telephone number is 571-272-4082. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on 571-272-4146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2165

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

January 14, 2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**HUY N. PARDO**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**